

Trust-Wide Climate Action Plan

(Based on DfE guidance: Sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education)

1. Decarbonisation

(e.g. calculating and taking actions to reduce carbon emissions)

Long-term goals linked to decarbonisation

- To become carbon neutral
- To make genuine, fundamental mindset changes in our children and within our school community.

Background information

Carbon emissions can be categorised into three “scopes”. These are:

- Scope 1: Carbon that is burnt on site (i.e. the school boiler)
- Scope 2: Carbon that is burnt elsewhere to provide energy (i.e. the school electricity supply)
- Scope 3: Every other source of carbon emission (e.g. unsustainable resources, food and transport)

Element 1: Using sustainable energy (reducing Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions)

Objective	Timescale	Who is responsible?	Review
Conduct regular energy audits to identify areas for improvement, including upgrading boilers, installing Building Management Systems, LED lighting and replacing inefficient windows/doors.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager	
Switch off lights and appliances when not in use, including computers, projectors and interactive whiteboards.	2025 - 2026	All staff	
Display information across the school to remind staff and pupils to switch off lights, devices and taps.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Site Managers	
Keep doors and windows closed in cold weather to reduce heat loss.	2025 - 2026	All staff	
Monitor and adjust heating schedules and temperatures to avoid unnecessary energy use.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Site Managers School SLT	
Conserve water by installing cistern dams, flow restrictors and other waste-reducing systems.	2026 - 2027	Estates Manager Site Managers	
Insulate hot water pipes to minimise heat loss, prevent wasted water when running taps and reduce the risk of frozen pipes.	2026 - 2027	Estates Manager Site Managers	
Ensure all energy systems operate efficiently, with any breakages or leaks addressed as a matter of priority.	2026 - 2027	Estates Manager Site Managers	
Explore opportunities to upgrade heating to more efficient systems (e.g. air source heat pumps, biomass, solar) and install smart meters.	2027 - 2028	Estates Manager	
Improve insulation and replace inefficient windows/doors where possible.	2026 - 2027	Estates Manager	
Review the sustainability credentials of energy suppliers and prioritise renewable or ethical options.	2026 - 2027	Estates Manager	

Appoint the site manager or named individual to oversee and monitor energy reduction measures.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager School SLT	
Display Energy Performance Certificates prominently in school buildings.	2025 - 2026	Site Managers	
Seek funding through schemes such as the Low Carbon Skills Fund and Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme.	2027 - 2028	Estates Manager	
Embed climate action priorities into each school's strategic plan and report progress annually to ensure accountability and continuous improvement.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager School SLT	
Element 2: Reducing Scope 3 carbon emissions			
Objective	Timescale	Who is responsible?	Review
Develop and implement transport plans to reduce car dependency for school journeys.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Provide clear and accessible recycling systems for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry recyclables (paper, cardboard, metal, plastic, glass). • Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). • Organic waste (food/kitchen composting). 	Dry 2025 - 2026 WEEE 2026 - 2027 Organic 2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Catering Staff	
Reduce use of single-use plastics and non-recyclable materials.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Trust Sustainability Lead	
Limit laminating to essential cases and prioritise long-term use for laminated resources.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead	
Minimise printing by using digital communication wherever possible.	2025 - 2026	All staff	
When printing is essential, print double-sided and use multiple pages per sheet where appropriate.	2025 - 2026	All staff	
Encourage pupils to share printed resources where feasible.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead	
Communicate with parents via email, school websites and text messaging to reduce paper use.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Prioritise leasing or purchasing second-hand equipment and furniture where suitable.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager	
Participate in national initiatives such as the <i>Keep Britain Tidy – Big School Spring Clean</i> and <i>Count Your Carbon</i> .	2026 - 2027	Trust Sustainability Lead	

2. Adaptation and resilience

(e.g. taking actions to reduce the risk of flooding and overheating)

Long term goals linked to adaptation and resilience

- To ensure that extreme weather does not limit access to education
- To ensure that children and staff are appropriately protected from extreme weather

Background information

Climate change is causing an increase in extreme weather events, including flooding, heatwaves and longer, more severe cold weather periods. Schools should give consideration to how they might mitigate these events. This should include:

- Changes that can be made to the school site to reduce the effects of flooding / hot weather etc.
- Policies and procedures that can be put in place to help children and staff work in such circumstances.

Element 1: Better equipping the school site for weather/weather events linked to climate change

Objective	Timescale	Who is responsible?	Review
Conduct site and building audits to identify areas for improvement in resilience to heat and flooding.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Site Managers School SLT	
Maintain blinds and explore fitting window films to reduce indoor temperatures.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Site Managers	
Minimise water waste through measures such as greywater harvesting.	2026 - 2027	Estates Manager Site Managers	
Explore installing Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) planters to capture and reuse rainwater for plants.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Site Managers Trust Sustainability Lead	

Element 2: Ensuring school policies and procedures help to mitigate extreme weather (e.g. heatwaves) for children and staff

Objective	Timescale	Who is responsible?	Review
Develop and implement a hot weather policy.	2025 - 2026	School SLT	
Explore installing shade structures in outdoor learning and play areas.	2027 - 2028	Estates Manager Site Managers School SLT	
Deliver annual assemblies on sun safety and hot weather awareness as part of the collective worship cycle.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	

3. Biodiversity

(e.g. engaging with the National Education Nature Park and enrolling in the Climate Action Award)

Long term goals linked to biodiversity

- To increase natural habitats within the school grounds (leading to an increase in biodiversity)
- To engage children and families in processes which will increase biodiversity locally.

Background information

In the UK, we've lost half of all our biodiversity since the industrial revolution – more than any other G7 country. We are in the bottom 10% of all countries globally for remaining biodiversity. The main reason for this is the catastrophic decline of our wild spaces. There is a huge wealth of evidence telling us that restoring biodiversity is a vital step in the fight against climate change. Schools should therefore consider how they can support nature's recovery within the school grounds, as well as promote measures to increase biodiversity in the wider school community.

Element 1: Increasing biodiversity within the school grounds

Objective	Timescale	Who is responsible?	Review
Incorporate biodiversity into outdoor learning spaces. Create and maintain habitats such as composting areas, bug hotels, planters and rewilded spaces.	2025 - 2026	Site Manager Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Promote litter reduction through assemblies, curriculum links and eco-committee initiatives.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Ensure all school community members take responsibility for keeping the site clean, using bins correctly, reusing and recycling wherever possible.	2025 - 2026	Site Manager Trust Sustainability Lead	

Element 2: Increasing biodiversity beyond the school grounds (e.g. through work with families and the community)

Objective	Timescale	Who is responsible?	Review
Partner with organisations such as <i>National Education Nature Park, Climate Action Award, Rewilding Britain</i> and <i>The Wildlife Trust</i> .	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead	
Encourage parents to support active travel, e.g. walking to school.	2025 - 2026	School SLT Trust Sustainability Lead	
Organise family challenges, such as building bug hotels or rewilding home gardens.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	

4. Climate education and green careers

(e.g. ensuring that education gives knowledge-rich and comprehensive teaching about climate change and that teachers feel supported to offer this.)

Long-term goals linked to climate education and green careers

- For climate action to be embedded throughout the curriculum.
- To identify a climate specific focus at least once each year.
- For all children in school to be exposed to green careers so they see a green career as a realistic opportunity and a job of value.

Background information

- Schools should consider how well their curriculum and extra-curricular offer:
- imparts a comprehensive understanding of climate change;
- instils a desire to take environmentally positive action;
- equips children with an awareness of green careers (and gives them the knowledge, skills and aspirations to pursue these).

Element 1: Climate education

Objective	Timescale	Who is responsible?	Review
Establish an eco-committee "Green Team" of staff and pupils to lead sustainability initiatives.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Promote healthy lifestyles that support sustainability, e.g. participating in the Daily Mile.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Encourage walking, cycling, car sharing and public transport for travel to and from school.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Promote safe travel through road safety and <i>Bikeability</i> training.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Provide secure cycle storage for staff and pupils.	2025 - 2026	Estates Manager Site Managers School SLT	
Promote staff car sharing for travel to training and events.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
Join the <i>Green Schools Project</i> to engage pupils in environmental and sustainability learning.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead	
Organise themed events linked to wider initiatives such as <i>Let's Go Wild</i> , <i>Earth Day</i> or <i>The Earthshot Prize</i> .	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead	
Use <i>Teach the Future</i> resources to support cross-curricular climate education <i>within</i> the current curriculum.	2026 - 2027	Trust Sustainability Lead Curriculum Leader	
Work towards <i>Eco-School</i> accreditation.	2027 - 2028	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	

Element 2: Green careers

Objective	Timescale	Who is responsible?	Review
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NET Academies Climate Action Plan



Highlight green careers during curriculum-linked events such as Science Week and sustainability-themed days.	2025 - 2026	Trust Sustainability Lead School SLT	
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